



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 13, 2004

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Creeks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: CONTRACT WITH URS CORPORATION FOR ARROYO BURRO
ESTUARY RESTORATION FINAL DESIGN PLANS

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Approve and authorize the Parks and Recreation Director to execute a professional services agreement with URS Corporation in the amount of \$84,040 to prepare final design plans and construction specifications for the restoration of the Arroyo Burro Estuary; and
- B. Authorize the Parks and Recreation Director to increase these services by 10 percent, or \$8,404, to cover any cost increases that may result from final design review and permit requirements.

DISCUSSION:

The Arroyo Burro Estuary Restoration Project is primarily focused on improving the habitat of the Arroyo Burro Estuary through the expansion of the estuary, removal of non-native invasive weeds, and replanting with native vegetation. The project also includes removing a 300-foot concrete culvert and the excavation of a new creek channel for Mesa Creek. Newly constructed trails and a footbridge across Mesa Creek will improve pedestrian access between the Arroyo Burro Beach County Park and the Douglas Family Preserve. Due to its location within two public parks that are frequently used by Santa Barbara area residents, and its proximity to the South Coast Watershed Resource Center, it is anticipated that this project will also serve as a restoration demonstration site and an educational laboratory for school age children.

The Planning Commission approved the project and certified the environmental document (Mitigated Negative Declaration) on May 13, 2004. Prior to sending the project out to bid for construction, State and Federal permits must be approved and the final project design plans and specifications completed. The following permits will be required: 404 permit

REVIEWED BY: _____ Finance _____ Attorney

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from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, 401 permit from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Highway Encroachment Permit from CalTrans, and a 1601 Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Game. The California Coastal Commission must also issue a Coastal Development Permit for the project. The Creeks Division is in the process of submitting permit applications to these five agencies.

Final Design Plans and Construction Specifications

The purpose of the contract is to prepare final design plans and construction specifications. The final design plans will be used for design review by the Building and Safety Division and Architectural Board of Review, as well as for soliciting construction bids and during project construction. The URS Corporation (URS) is recommended for developing the final design plans because they developed the preliminary design plans for the restoration project.

It is anticipated that the final design plans and construction specifications will be completed and project permits will be received by December 2004. The project is scheduled to be advertised for bids in February 2005 with construction starting in mid-July 2005.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The existing Creeks Capital Fund includes \$276,000 in grant appropriations from the State Coastal Conservancy and \$291,000 in Measure B funds for this project. A portion of the State Coastal Conservancy grant funds will be used for completing the final design plans and construction specifications. The cost to prepare final design plans and construction specifications is \$84,040. Due to the potential for required changes to the project during final design review and permitting, it is recommended that Council approval include a 10 percent change order contingency of \$8,404.

Final project design plans and specifications will include construction cost estimates. Since the project construction funds have not been secured, the Creeks Division will return to Council with a request for additional appropriations prior to advertising for construction bids. The Creeks Division will also be seeking additional grant funds for project construction.

PREPARED BY: Jill E. Zachary, Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager

SUBMITTED BY: Nancy L. Rapp, Acting Parks and Recreation Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office